

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** November 5, 2008  
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## **Constitutional Amendments**

State Capitol - Today, November 5, 2008, Secretary of State Max Maxfield released the unofficial results regarding the constitutional amendments which were on the General Election ballot. According to the unofficial results, it appears as if Constitutional Amendment A will pass and Constitutional Amendment B will fail.

Whether a constitutional amendment passes or fails is not determined by a simple majority of the vote on the amendment. "To pass, a constitutional amendment must receive a "yes" vote from more than one half of all the people who voted in the election, not just on that particular question," Maxfield said. "According to the unofficial results, 257,331 people voted in this election, so to pass, a constitutional amendment must receive at least 128,667 "yes" votes; that's the threshold," Maxfield said.

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Constitutional Amendment A which intended to clarify and modernize the oath of office taken by all elected and appointed officials of whom the oath is required, unofficially received 191,747 votes. Thus it appears Constitutional Amendment A will pass.

Constitutional Amendment B intended to change the requirement for petition signatures for an initiative or referendum. Currently a petition must be signed by at least fifteen percent of the qualified voters in at least two-thirds of the counties, as determined by those who voted in the last general election. This amendment would have changed the requirement to at least fifteen percent of the qualified voters in at least two-thirds of the senate districts as determined by those who voted in the last general election. Amendment B received 120,312 “yes” votes and therefore it appears as if Amendment B will fail.

Secretary Maxfield stated, “Remember, all counties’ results are unofficial until canvassed by county canvassing boards.”